

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Sheree Rowe (Reg. No.: 59,068) on December 05, 2008.

2. **In the claims:**

- Please cancel claims 1, 4-9, 12-15, 23, 31, 32 and 37.
- Amend claim 16 and 24 as follows:

16. (Currently Amended) A system for viewing electronic books retrieved from a file server comprising:

means for selecting an electronic book from the file server, wherein the file server receives electronic book files from a video connector that receives a signal from a distribution system, converts the signal into electronic book files, and stores the electronic book files to the file server;

a memory that stores the selected electronic book; [[and]]

a viewer that displays the selected electronic book, wherein the memory receives the selected electronic book from the file server, and wherein the viewer is adapted for connection to the selecting means that delivers the electronic book to the viewer; and

a storage feature providing an option to a system operator for the selected electronic book to be stored in the memory:

until the electronic book is read once, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after being read once;

until a predetermined period of time has passed, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after the predetermined period of time has passed; and

permanently, wherein the electronic book is not automatically erased.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for distributing electronic books from a vendor to a purchaser comprising:

receiving a selection corresponding to an electronic book from a file server, wherein the file server receives electronic book files from a video connector that receives a signal from a distribution system, converts the signal into electronic book files, and stores the electronic book files to the file server;

providing an option to a system operator for the selected electronic book to be stored in a memory of a viewer:

until the electronic book is read once, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after being read once;

until a predetermined period of time has passed, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after the predetermined period of time has passed; and

permanently, wherein the electronic book is not automatically erased;

downloading the selected book to the viewer; and

storing the selected book in the memory of the viewer[; and]].

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 16-20, 22, 24, 25, 27-29 and 33 (renumbered 1-12) are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination reasonably teaches or suggests a system for viewing an electronic book comprising a means for selecting an electronic book from a file server, the file server receiving electronic book files from a video connector that receives a signal from a distribution system, converting the signal into electronic book files, and stores the electronic book files on the file server; an electronic book viewer configured for connection to the selecting means that delivers the electronic book to the viewer, the viewer having therein a memory for receiving and storing the selected electronic book form the file server, and providing an option to a system operator for the selected electronic book to be stored in the memory of the viewer until read once and automatically erased after been read once; until a predetermined period has elapsed, where the electronic book is automatically erased after the predetermined time has elapsed and an option to permanently store the electronic book in the memory as recited in claim 16 and similarly in the corresponding process claim 24.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yemane Mesfin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3927. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Y. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2444
/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444